

Viking Explorer (4830)

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2018 Tour Details

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Follow in the footsteps of the Vikings as you explore many of northern Europe's fascinating cities and scenic areas. This budget-minded northern European tour starts in Amsterdam with a canal cruise and ends in Bergen with guided sightseeing. Along the way, you'll stay in Hamburg, Copenhagen, Gothenburg, Oslo, and the Flam area. One of the northern Europe and Scandinavia tour highlights is a breathtaking ride on the Flam train, one of the world's most scenic train rides, which passes through 20 tunnels and climbs to an elevation of 2,833 feet. Witness hypnotic waterfalls cascading down the side of steep, snowcapped mountains; rivers winding through deep gorges; farms on the side of steep slopes; and views of Sognefjord, Norway's longest and deepest fjord. You'll also take a scenic cruise amid majestic mountains, fresh mountain air, and the spectacular landscape dotted with small, idyllic villages. Witness charming little fishing villages, rocky islands, and granite rocks along the scenic Skagerrak coastline from Gothenburg – Sweden's second-largest city and one of Europe's major seaports – to Oslo. Also enjoy the drive through Norway's Hallingdal Valley with its splendid mountains, lakes, and rivers. Guided sightseeing excursions are included in Amsterdam, Hamburg, Copenhagen, Oslo, and Bergen. Other tour features include impressive UNESCO World Heritage Sites that are historically tied to the Baltic confederation of sea-trading countries. In the German town of Bremen – a Hanseatic city with a history dating back 1,200 years– you'll see the Town Hall, built between 1405 and 1410. Stop in the smaller, charming Hanseatic city of Lübeck – founded in 1143 on the Baltic Coast of northern Germany. In Bergen, see the Bryggen Hanseatic wharf with foundations dating to the 12th century. These are just a few of the many highlights of this value-minded tour to Scandinavia. Be sure to bring your camera to capture the beauty and wonderful memories.

To know more about the visas for this vacation, [click here](#)

To know more about Indian Restaurants, [click here](#)



Destinations & Sightseeing

Visits to Bremen, Lübeck, Malmö "Turning Torso" building, Halmstad, Gothenburg, Gol, Borgund Stave Church, Flåm train ride, Sognefjord cruise

Guides:

Local Guides for city sightseeing in Amsterdam, Hamburg, Copenhagen, Oslo, Bergen; professional Tour Director while touring

Oresund bridge, Skagerrak, Hallingdal, Sognefjord

Transportation:

Touring by private, first-class, air-conditioned motorcoach; ferry crossing Puttgarden to Rodby; cruise on Sognefjord; Flåm-Myrdal-Flåm Train

Meals

Meals & Itinerary

Buffet breakfasts daily; 4 dinners

Itinerary

Inside visits and special features are shown in UPPERCASE in the tour description.

Day 1

ARRIVE IN AMSTERDAM AREA, HOLLAND. Check into your hotel. The rest of the day is free. Tonight, meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers. (D)

Day 2

AMSTERDAM AREA. For centuries, this tiny nation of seafaring traders played a leading role in world history. It wrested 40% of its territory from the hostile sea, and produces a healthy agricultural surplus in the midst of Europe's most densely populated area—yet Holland manages to remain quaint and scenic. A Local Guide will point out Amsterdam's highlights on the included city tour. Complete the experience with a CANAL CRUISE to see the town from water level. Watch skilled craftsmen cut and polish precious stones at a DIAMOND CENTER. This afternoon, spend some time exploring on your own or join an optional excursion. (B)

Day 3

AMSTERDAM AREA–BREMEN, GERMANY–HAMBURG. This morning, travel to the Hanseatic city of Bremen, which majestically straddles the Weser River. Settlements date back to the 7th century, but the city rose in prominence as trade with Norway, England, and the Netherlands increased in the 11th century. Bremen's attractions include the opulent Town Hall, a UNESCO World Heritage Site; the massive, 15th-century statue of Roland, the city's protector; the oldest wine cellar in Germany; and the bronze sculpture of the Bremen Town Musicians from the Grimm Brothers' famous fairytale. Continue to Hamburg, Germany's second-largest city, where you arrive in time for an optional harbor cruise. (B)

Day 4

HAMBURG–LÜBECK–PUTTGARDEN-RØDBY FERRY–COPENHAGEN AREA, DENMARK. Your day begins with the guided walking tour of Hamburg, one of Germany's greatest maritime cities. Marvel at the impressive Town Hall; the landmark St. Michael's Church; the ruins of St. Nicholas' Church, the tallest building in the world from 1874 to 1876; the unusual Elbe Philharmonic Hall; and more. Later, drive to Lübeck, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that is considered the cultural capital of northern Germany. Enjoy a pleasant FERRY ride from Puttgarden in Germany across the Fehmarn Belt Strait to Rødby, Denmark, and arrive in Copenhagen. (B,D)

Day 5

COPENHAGEN. Spend the whole day exploring the capital of the oldest kingdom in the world. On your included guided city tour, see the city's many fascinating landmarks, architectural masterpieces, and celebrated sights, including the world-famous Little Mermaid sculpture. An optional tour of Zealand's castles is also available. (B)

Day 6

COPENHAGEN AREA–MALMÖ, SWEDEN–HELSINGBORG–HALMSTAD–GOTHENBURG. Via the ORESUND BRIDGE, the longest bridge in Europe, travel across the strait that separates Denmark and Sweden. Stop in Malmö to view the stunning contemporary high-rise known as the “Turning Torso,” the tallest building in the Nordic countries. Via Helsingborg, stop in Halmstad on the Nissan River with its 17th-century castle. Walk along the stone streets of the town center, lined with cafés, and admire the Pablo Picasso sculpture, Female Head, before heading towards Gothenburg. (B,D)

Day 7

GOTHENBURG–OSLO, NORWAY. This morning, get to know Gothenburg, Sweden’s thriving, second-largest city, which is one of Europe’s major seaports. Take the scenic route along the Skagerrak coastline, then cross the border into Norway and head for the ancient capital city of Oslo. (B)

Day 8

OSLO. Your guided sightseeing begins with stunning vistas of Akershus Castle, the 14th-century fortress guarding the harbor, followed by the CITY HALL, National Theater, Parliament, Royal Palace, Broadcasting House, and Gustav Vigeland’s distinctive sculptures in FROGNER PARK. This afternoon, enjoy leisure time to relax or explore on your own. (B)

Day 9

OSLO–HØNEFOSS–FLÅ–GOL–BORGUND–FLÅM AREA. A scenic drive today through Hallingdal Valley via the peaceful village of Flå. Forest-clad dales and soaring mountain peaks are around every bend on your scenic journey to Gol, where we stop for a visit before heading towards Borgund, famous for its stave church. This intricate structure was built around 1180 AD and is dedicated to the Apostle Andrew. Arrive in the quaint area of Flåm, nestled at the entrance to the stunning Aurlandsfjord. (B,D)

Day 10

FLÅM AREA–SOGNEFJORD–BERGEN. Today, experience breathtaking Norway with a special treat! Start the day on the renowned FLÅM TRAIN, witnessing some of the world’s most scenic wilderness. Along the way, see mighty waterfalls, towering mountains, and verdant valleys. Later, a leisurely CRUISE showcases one of Norway’s most famous fjords, the Sognefjord. Continue to Bergen through the heart of Fjordland. (B)

Day 11

BERGEN. With fjords on one side and 1,000-foot-high Mount Fløyen on the other, Bergen is hailed as the “City of Seven Mountains.” Your guided sightseeing tour takes in the main sights, including the Bryggen Hanseatic wharf, one of the landmarks of Bergen’s bayside area, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. (B)

Day 12

BERGEN. Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning.

Tour Director

With Cosmos, there's no better way to get to know your destination than through the eyes of your Tour Director. Averaging over a decade... we'd like you to meet a Tour Director, who is representative of the type of expert that will be with you on your vacation.

ANDREJ SCHERGIN

Escorting tours for more than 10 years

"Join me in discovering the diversity and mysteries of Scandinavia, Russia and the Baltics. For me, the region is more than a destination full of culinary delicacies, fairytales, troubled pasts and bright futures. For me, a native of the area, it is shrouded in tales of escape and survival, family and social progress. At Cosmos, travel is more than a destination, it is a life experience!"



Accommodations

AMSTERDAM Corendon Village (F)
AMSTERDAM Tulip Inn Airport (ST)
HAMBURG NH Hamburg City (F)
HAMBURG NH Altona Hamburg (F)
COPENHAGEN Park Inn Copenhagen Airport (ST)
COPENHAGEN Scandic Sluleholmen Copenhagen (F)
GOTHENBURG First Kviberg Park (F)
OSLO Comfort Borsparken (ST)
OSLO Scandic Sjolyst (F)
FLAM Stalheim (ST)
BERGEN Thon Bristol (ST)

Optional Excursions

The following optional excursions may or may not be offered, and availability is subject to days of operation and seasonality. Please select a departure date to view optional excursions and pricing for a specific date (due to currency fluctuation, pricing shown is subject to change until